

**Duty anomalies in Synthetic Fibre Industry**

**3017. SHRI K.KALAVENKATA RAO:** Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that synthetic Fibre manufacturers' in the country are very much peeved and want immediate removal of duty anomalies burdening the industry;

(b) whether it is also a fact that import from South East Asian countries is much cheaper than indigenously produced fibres, resulting in the units being shut down because of lack of level playing field; and

(c) what steps Government are taking to improve the situation for domestic fibre manufacturing units?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE):** (a) In the Budget proposals for 2001-2002, Basic Customs Duty (BCD) on DMT,PTA,MEG and Caprolactum is proposed to be brought down to 20%, which is same as that on Polyester Fibre/Yarn, Acrylic Fibre and Nylon Filament Yarn.

(a) and (c) The proportion of imports to total consumption is low. India is also exporting Synthetic Fibre/yarns to other countries. However, specific cases of import of cheap fibres/yarns qualifying as "dumping" can be investigated by the competent authority.

**Import of life saving drugs**

**3018. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:** Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the total value of life saving drugs imported during each of the last years, till date;

(b) the names of companies from which these were imported and foreign exchange involved therein;

(c) the steps taken by Government to produce these drugs in the country under its new drug policy; and

(d) whether Government are aware that with the proposed